

Lincoln Conservation Commission
Lincoln Town Hall
100 Old River Road
Lincoln, RI 02865

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2, 2011 MEETING OF THE
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

MICHAEL MARSEGLIA - CHAIRMAN
FRANCO ALFIERI
DORIS BRAIS
DANIEL FLYNN
ANNE MCGINN

MEMBERS ABSENT

ANTHONY E. PERROTTI – VICE CHAIRMAN
MICHAEL GRAVIER

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mike Marseglia called the March 2, 2011 meeting of the Conservation Commission to order at 7:30 PM.

II. APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Mike M. asked for the approval of the January 5, 2011 minutes. A motion by Dan, seconded by Doris. Voted unanimous to approve.

Mike M. asked for the approval of the January 26, 2011 minutes. A motion by Mike, seconded by Doris. Voted unanimous to approve.

Mike M. asked for the approval of the February 8, 2011 minutes. A motion by Dan, seconded by Anne. Voted unanimous to approve.

Anne arrived at 7:42 pm

III. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Peter Coffin, Coordinator, Blackstone River Coalition attended. Mr. Coffin is also a member of the Mendon, MA Conservation Commission. Mr. Coffin came to the CC to discuss the importance of protecting water quality in the Blackstone River Watershed area.

The following are points of interest:

- The EPA does synoptic testing across the watershed area, gathers data, assesses after 5 years.
- The concern of nonpoint source water.
- The concern of water run-off and how to clean it.
- Massachusetts and Rhode Island working together along with 2 watershed councils in MA and the Friends of the Blackstone in RI.
- The coalition would like to coordinate the work from all commissions focusing on storm water, cleaning catch basins.
- The EPA has high standards for water treatment; sewerage treatment.
- The coalition is campaigning for a fishable, swimmable Blackstone River in 2015.
- Asking commissions to educate homeowners on catch basin, DPW cleaning catch basins, using better and less fertilizer (too many nutrients).
- See pamphlet regarding clean car care, poop pickup, clean dishes/clean streams, homeowners guide to protecting water quality in the Blackstone Valley, “Greening” you lawn and gardens, rooftop runoff, reducing paving, household hazardous waste and life on the edge of waterways.
- Salting the roads for ice in the winters.
- Creating rain gardens in public areas.
- Issues on the Blackstone River; storm water, historic sediment, waste water treatment plans.
- There is a report card for on water quality monitoring including aesthetics, temperature, dissolved oxygen, saturation and nutrient. 78 sites tested. Water quality getting better, but added development needed.

Mike M. stated that the Town should put in more rain gardens at the senior center, Butterfly Garden, Chase Park. Anne ask what the town can do, Mr. Coffin reiterated the importance of clean catch basins, rain gardens, new construction creating erosion putting phosphorous into the groundwater, moving down spouts to go into the grass not to the road. Franco asked about the salt on the roads. Mr. Coffin stated that New Jersey is using a salty brine on the roads instead of salt crystals.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE:

Northern RI Conservation District Annual Report, July 09-June 10.

V. WETLAND APPLICATIONS: None

VI. COMMISSION PROJECTS:

Organic Community Garden- No report.

Butterfly Garden – Leslie is asked to follow up on the repair of the pond.

Rain Garden- Mike M. spoke to Al Ranaldi regarding the contractor doing the plant work in a month.

Shady Brook – No report.

Open Space – The CC reviewed the open space brochure.

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

Mike M. stated that the CC will hold back the funds approved for the elementary school garden clubs until we hear from them.

Mike M. stated that he is going to attend the Land Trust meeting.

Mike M. stated that the open space walk through has been rescheduled.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

The CC welcomes a new member Franco Alfieri, from Limerock.

Franco asked if the CC would get involved with an Adopt a Spot program. Franco is going to look into the process of “Adopt A Spot” for the town.

IX. BUDGET:

Mike M. stated that the budget could be spent on the Butterfly Garden, Rain Garden, Land water Summit and Adopt a Spot.

X. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The election of officers is scheduled for October 2011.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Anne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Doris seconded. Vote unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Alexander, Recording Secretary
Lincoln Conservation Commission